

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 204933 TOSEC 040088
ORIGIN NODS-00

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APPROVED BY AF:TSEELYE

S/S -PTARNOFF(SUBS)

S/P:MSPIEGAL (SUBS)

S/S-O:AWOTTO

-----081714Z 087373 /46

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 104933 TOSEC 040088

NODIS

FOR SPIEGEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RH

SUBJECT:ACTION MEMORANDUM: INSTRUCTIONS TO INFORM
SOUTH AFRICA OF US-UK AGREEMENT TO BEGIN JOINT CONSULTA-
TIONS ON RHODESIA

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS THAT YOU APPROVE FOLLOWING DRAFT
TELEGRAM TO BE COORDINATED WITH BRITISH BY AMEMBASSY LONDON
AND AUTHORIZE ITS TRANSMISSION TO EMBASSY CAPE TOWN.

APPROVE:

DISAPPROVE:

QUOTE

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NIACT IMMEDIATE CAPE TOWN, FOR CHARGE

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TAGS: PFOR, RH

SUBJECT: INFORMING SAG OF US-UK AGREEMENT TO BEGIN JOINT
CONSULTATIONS ON RHODESIA

1. AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY YOU SHOULD INFORM FONMIN BOTHA
OR BRAND FOURIE OF US-UK AGREEMENT ON NEXT STEPS IN RHODESIA

USING TALKING POINTS IN PARA 2 AND INFORMING THEM THAT WE
AND BRITISH ARE PLANNING MAKE SIMULTANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENT

ALONG LINES OF DRAFT TEXT IN PARA 3.

2. TALKING POINTS:

A. THE U.S. AND U.K. ARE PLANNING TO ANNOUNCE
SIMULTANEOUSLY THE NEXT STEPS IN RHODESIA NEGOTIATIONS ON OR
BEFORE WEDNESDAY, MAY 11. WE FEEL IT IS IMPORTANT FOR YOU
TO KNOW AND UNDERSTAND WHAT OUR PLANS ARE BEFORE PUBLIC
ANNOUNCEMENT IS MADE.

B. THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS AGREED TO BECOME MORE
ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO A RHODESIAN
SETTLEMENT THAN WE HAVE HITHERTO BEEN.

C. THIS WILLINGNESS SERVES AS AN INDICATION OF OUR CON-
TINUING INTEREST IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. WE FEEL THAT OUR
DESIRE TO ASSIST RHODESIA TO INDEPENDENCE IS NOT ONLY
CONSISTENT WITH OUR PRINCIPLES, BUT ALSO SERVES AS A COUN-
TERWEIGHT TO SOVIET DESIGNS FOR THE REGION.

D. CONTINUED VIOLENCE IN RHODESIA INCREASES THE POSSIBILITY
OF FOREIGN INTERVENTION. A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IS THERE-
FORE OF GROWING URGENCY.

E. AS THE NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING A RHODESIAN CONSTITUTION
EVOLVE, THERE WILL BE MANY ISSUES THAT CAN ONLY BE RESOLVED
THROUGH COMPROMISE AND MODERATION. WE HOPE THAT SOUTH
AFRICA WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN HELPING
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MR. SMITH TO UNDERSTAND THE REALITIES OF HIS SITUATION.

F. WE HAVE CONSULTED CLOSELY WITH THE BRITISH AND AGREE
WITH THEM THAT CONSULTATIONS ABOUT AN INDEPENDENCE CON-
STITUTION AND THE NECESSARY TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS COULD
HELP ACHIEVE A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. ACCORDINGLY, WE HAVE
AGREED TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THEM IN CARRYING OUT A NEW PHASE
OF INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PARTIES THAT WERE PRE-
SENT AT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE.

G. WE BELIEVE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL TO
PROVIDE SOME BASIS FOR DISCUSSION AMONG THE PARTIES AND FOR
A SETTLEMENT. IT WOULD BE FUTILE TO RUSH INTO ANOTHER
CONFERENCE BEFORE THERE IS SOME AGREEMENT ON BASIC
PRINCIPLES.

H. WE SEE OUR ROLE IN THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS AS
FACILITATING AGREEMENT ON BASIC PRINCIPLES AND HELPING THE
BRITISH SEEK A REAL BASIS FOR SETTLEMENT.

I. IF THERE IS PROGRESS IN THE CONSULTATIONS, WE ARE PREPARED TO ASK THE FRONT LINE STATES TO URGE THE NATIONALISTS TO ACCEPT A JUST SETTLEMENT. THERE ARE LIMITS TO OUR ABILITY, BUT WE BELIEVE WE CAN HAVE A CONSTRUCTIVE INFLUENCE.

J. TO PURSUE THE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS, THE U.S. WILL ASSIGN A SENIOR OFFICIAL TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE HEAD OF THE GROUP. OCCASIONAL VISITS TO RHODESIA MAY BE NECESSARY AND THE U.S. OFFICIAL WILL ACCOMPANY WHEN APPROPRIATE.

K. WE WILL CONDUCT CONSULTATIONS JOINTLY WITH THE BRITISH OR SEPARATELY DEPENDING ON THE WISHES OF THE INDIVIDUAL PARTIES.

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L. WE DO NOT WISH OURSELVES TO NEGOTIATE THE DETAILS OF A CONSTITUTION. THIS SHOULD PROPERLY BE LEFT TO THOSE IMMEDIATELY CONCERNED AND THE U.K.

3. BEGIN TEXT:THE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE, MR. CYRUS VANCE, AND THE BRITISH FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY, DR. DAVID OWEN, HAVE CONSIDERED THE PROBLEM OF RHODESIA IN THE LIGHT OF THE LATTER'S TRIP TO AFRICA. BOTH GOVERNMENTS WISH TO REITERATE THEIR COMMON DETERMINATION TO WORK FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF RHODESIA UNDER MAJORITY RULE IN 1978. THEY HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED BY THEIR CONTACTS SO FAR TO BELIEVE THAT DETAILED CONSULTATIONS ABOUT AN INDEPENDENCE CONSTITUTION AND THE NECESSARY TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE A SATISFACTORY WAY TO ACHIEVE THIS. THEY HAVE, THEREFORE, AGREED THAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES SHOULD NOW ENTER INTO A PHASE OF INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PARTIES. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO ESTABLISH A CONSULTATIVE GROUP TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE PARTIES WHICH WILL VISIT THE AREA AS NECESSARY, INCLUDING SALISBURY. IT WILL BE HEADED BY MR. J.A.N. GRAHAM, DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY AT THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE. MR. VANCE HAS AGREED TO APPOINT A SENIOR UNITED STATES OFFICIAL TO WORK WITH THE HEAD OF THE BRITISH CONSULTATIVE GROUP. END TEXT CHRISTOPHER

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